
掌唇兰属 zhang chun lan shu

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Sarothrochilus Schlechter.

Herbs, epiphytic, monopodial, large. Stems ascending, climbing or pendulous, long or short, with many nodes. Leaves many, distichous, usually lorate, with nodes, base amplexicaul-sheathing, sessile, jointed. Inflorescences axillary, paniculate, often opposite to leaves, laxly several to many flowered. Flowers usually opening widely, small to medium-sized. Sepals free, similar. Petals slightly smaller; lip fleshy, adnate at base to column, immovable, base shortly spurred or slightly saccate, 3- or 5-lobed; lateral lobes erect; mid-lobe usually ± hairy on adaxial surface; spur, if present, with a hairy ligulate appendage on its back wall. Column short, stout, often hairy, foot indistinct; pollinia 4 in unequal pairs, waxy, subglobose, unequal in size, with a common narrow stipe and a solitary ovate viscidium.

About 14 species: from India through SE Asia to Indonesia and the Philippines; three species in China.

1a. Inflorescences shorter than leaves; peduncle and rachis 1–1.5 mm in diam. ................................................................. 2. S. loratus
1b. Inflorescences longer than leaves; peduncle and rachis stout, ca. 3 mm in diam.

2a. Lip 5-lobed ........................................................................................................................................................ 1. S. dawsonianus
2b. Lip 3-lobed ............................................................................................................................................................ 3. S. luchuensis


掌唇兰 zhang chun lan


Stems ascending, terete, to more than 50 cm, 6–7 mm in diam., rigid, sometimes branching, with many nodes, internodes 1.5–2.5 cm. Leaves many, distichous, narrowly oblong, 11–15 × 1.5–2 cm, obtuse and unequally bilobed. Inflorescence opposite to leaf, paniculate, to 45 cm, laxly many flowered; peduncle 3–4 mm in diam.; rachis yellowish green, slightly compressed or ± trigonous, narrowly winged; floral bracts ovate-triangular, 5–7 mm, obtuse. Flowers opening widely, fleshy, sepals and petals pale yellow, adaxially with chestnut transverse stripes, lip orange-yellow, disk with a central red band; pedicel and ovary 1.5–2 cm. Dorsal sepal subspatulate, ca. 15 × 5 mm, dorsally carinate, mucronate; lateral sepals slightly oblique, oblong, ca. 15 × 5 mm, rostrate. Petals spatulate, ca. 14 × 4 mm, retuse and shortly rostrate; lip ca. 7 mm, 5-lobed; basal lobes oblong, ca. 4.8 × 1.7 mm; lateral lobes narrowly oblong, ca. 4 × 1.5 mm, obtuse; apical lobes narrowly obvate, ca. 2.5 mm, thickly fleshy, obtuse and emarginate at apex; disk densely hirsute; spur conic, ca. 1 mm, thickly fleshy, with a broadly ovate-triangular appendage on its back wall. Column ca. 3 mm, stout, stelidia hirsute; stigma large, at base of column; anther cap subglobose, densely minutely papillate-hairy. Capsule narrowly ellipsoid, ca. 4 × 1 cm. Fl. May–Jul, fr. Sep–Oct. 2n = 38.

Epiphytic on tree trunks at forest margins; 500–800 m. S Yunnan [Laos, Myanmar, Thailand].


小掌唇兰 xiao zhang chun lan


Stems ascending, 3–16 cm, 5–7 mm in diam., rigid, sometimes branching, internodes 5–7 mm. Leaves many, distichous; leaf blade narrowly oblong, 10–16 × 0.9–1.8 cm, leathery, obtuse and slightly unequally bilobed. Inflorescences ascending, racemose, 1–5, 5–8 cm, laxly 3–6-flowered; peduncle slender, 1–1.5 mm in diam.; floral bracts triangular, ca. 2 mm, acute. Flowers opening widely, small, slightly fleshy, sepals and petals yellow with purplish brown spots, lip white; pedicel and ovary ca. 6 mm. Dorsal sepal subspatulate, ca. 5 × 2.5 mm, acute;

lateral sepals obliquely obovate, ca. 5 × 3 mm, obtuse. Petals obliquely obovate, ca. 4.5 × 2.5 mm, obtuse; lip ca. 6 mm, fleshy, 3-lobed, base with a channeled, densely hairy claw ca. 2 mm; lateral lobes suboblong, ca. 2 × 1.5 mm; mid-lobe sub-quadrate, ca. 2 × 3 mm, fleshy, adaxially ± papillate, subtruncate; disk deeply concave at center; spur cylindric, ca. 2.5 × 1.5 mm, apex obtuse, interior with a densely hairy ligulate appendage on back wall. Column ca. 2 mm, with dense minutely papillate hairs; stipe spatulate, ca. 1.5 mm; viscidium elliptic, very thick. Capsule cylindric, 4–5 cm × ca. 5 mm. Fl. Jan–Mar, fr. Jun.

Epiphytic on tree trunks in forests; 700–1500 m. S Yunnan [Thailand].


豹纹掌唇兰    bao wen zhang chun lan


Stems terete, to 1 m, stout, ca. 1.5 cm, internodes 2–3 cm. Leaves many, distichous; leaf blade linear-lorate, 20–25 × 2.5–3.5 cm, leathery, unequally laterally bilobed. Inflorescences arising from upper stem, several, ascending, racemose or paniculate, to 40 cm, many flowered; floral bracts broadly triangular, ca. 4 mm. Flowers yellowish white with many brownish red spots, opening widely, fleshy; pedicel and ovary ca. 1.5 cm. Dorsal sepal spatulate, ca. 18 × 7 mm, obtuse; lateral sepals slightly oblique, spatulate, shorter and wider than dorsal sepal. Petals falcate-obovate, ca. 17 × 7 mm, clawed at base; lip 3-lobed, including spur ca. 1.5 cm; lateral lobes erect, suborbicular, both surfaces shortly hairy; mid-lobe fleshy, abruptly narrowed near middle to a hairy cuspidate tip; spur subconic, ca. 5 mm, interior with a ca. 4 mm appendage almost covering entrance; stelidia hairy; clinandrium and anther cap hairy. Fl. Mar–May. 2n = 38.

Epiphytic on trees in broad-leaved forests. Taiwan [Japan (Ryukyu Islands), Philippines].